DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

MESSAGE CENTER

VZCZCMLT241 ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ 18445
MULT
ACTION DIA:
DISTR CJCS DJS J3:(04) J5(02) NMCC NMIC SECDEF: ASD:ISA(10)
IDIA(15) SWS(01)
SECSTATE WASH DC
C I A
NSA MCCC CMC
CSAF WASH DC
CNO WASH DC
CSA WASH DC
FILE(1)
(033)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~NOFORN~~
~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

RECEIVED DS-4D
Aug 26 10 24 PM '75

TRANSIT/251330Z/251415Z/000:45TOR2371414
DE RUESBAA #0851 2371350
ZNY ~~CCCCC~~
P R 251330Z AUG 75
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC
INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ
RULPAKA/193RD INF BGDE FT AMADOR CZ
RULBSAA/USNAVSO FT AMADOR CZ
RULPAFA/USAFSO ALBROOK AFB CZ
BT
~~C O N F I D E N T I A L NOFORN~~ 0851 AUG 75
THIS IS IR (b)(3):10 USC 424
1. AR
2. MILITARY REACTION TO APPOINTMENT OF COLONEL VINCENTE DAMASCO AS MIN. OF INTERIOR (U)
3. N/A
4. 1975, AUG 20
5. 1975, AUG 20, BUENOS AIRES
6. (b)(3):10 USC 424
7.
8.
9. 1975 AUG 22
10.
11.
12.
13. & 14. Sec. 3.3(b) (1);(b)(3):10 USC 424
15.1. ~~EO/NFD~~

PAGE 1 ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ 00100001

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: *Oct 19, 2018*

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ 18445

2. ~~(C/NFD)~~ [redacted] Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

EITHER IN A MILITARY OR POLITICAL SENSE. WHEN ASKED IF HE THOUGHT THAT THE CONTROVERSY OVER COL. DAMASCO'S APPOINTMENT WOULD DIE DOWN, HE RESPONDED THAT IT WAS FAR FROM OVER. HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT DAMASCO WOULD LAST THE TWO MONTHS WHICH THE LAW ALLOWS HIM TO STAY IN AN ACTIVE STATUS, SINCE HE IS IN A "NO-WIN" SITUATION. SOURCE POINTED OUT THAT MANY POLITICAL AND LABOR LEADERS RESENT THAT A MILITARY MAN OCCUPIES THE MOST POWERFUL POLITICAL POST IN THE CABINET AND HE DOUBTS THAT THEY WILL GIVE HIM THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION THAT HE NEEDS. HE WENT ON TO CONFIRM PREVIOUS REPORTS THAT THE AIR FORCE AND NAVY CINC'S DEEPLY RESENTED THAT THEY WERE NOT PREVIOUSLY CONSULTED ON THE DAMASCO APPOINTMENT AND THAT THE DIVISION IN THE ARMY IS REAL AND PROFOUND. WHEN PRESSED [redacted] ON HOW SUCH AN APPOINTMENT COULD HAVE COME ABOUT, SOURCE TOLD OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WHICH DEVELOPED BETWEEN GENERAL PERON AND COL. DAMASCO. HE THEN REVEALED THAT PERON ADVISED HIS WIFE FROM HIS DEATH BED NEVER TO SIGN A DECREE WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING WITH "ESTE MUCHACHO" (THIS BOY), REFERRING TO DAMASCO. SOURCE FELT THAT MRS. PERON, REMEMBERING THE GENERAL'S ADVICE, AND HAVING LOST LOPEZ REGA, TURNED IN DESPERATION TO DAMASCO.

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

4. ~~(C/NFD)~~ CMT: [redacted] Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

WHETHER MRS. PERON TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN TURNING TO DAMASCO OR DAMASCO PUSHED HIMSELF INTO THE APPOINTMENT AND MRS. PERON MERELY CONCURRED, IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR.
COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY.
~~NOFORN TO AVOID COMPROMISE OF SOURCE IN UNIQUE POSITION.~~
~~DDS DEC 31, 1981~~
BT
#0851

CCJ 117

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 19, 2018